OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

JOYCE E. DUDLEY
District Attorney



DA 04-406

RELEASE NUMBER

April 27, 2017

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Jennifer Karapetian, Deputy District Attorney

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*****PRESS RELEASE****

Re: People v. Marcale Emon Alexander, Case Number 1480336

Joyce E. Dudley announced today that thirty-four-year-old Marcale Emon Alexander of Bakersfield, California, pled guilty to human trafficking charges. Defendant Alexander pled guilty to violations of Penal Code section 236.1(c)(1), for trafficking a sixteen-year-old minor, Jane Doe 1, and Penal Code section 236.1(b) for trafficking a nineteen-year-old girl, Jane Doe 2. Defendant Alexander also pled guilty to two "strikes"; violations of Penal Code section 136.1(c)(1), for attempting to dissuade the victims from reporting the crime.

In July 2014, Defendant Alexander met Jane Doe 1 in Santa Maria. For two weeks, he forced Jane Doe 1 to prostitute herself in various cities from Santa Maria to Salinas, before allowing her to return home to San Luis Obispo.

In February 2015, Defendant Alexander enlisted the assistance of his co-conspirator, then eighteen-year-old Brianna Shawntay Jackson-Robinson. In early February 2015, Jackson-Robinson met Jane Doe 2 on an internet-dating website. Jackson-Robinson then lured her from the Bay-Area to Bakersfield under false pretenses of a romantic relationship. Once in Bakersfield, Jackson-Robinson forced Jane Doe 2 to prostitute herself. For over two weeks, Defendant Alexander and Jackson-Robinson forced Jane Doe 2 to commit acts of prostitution in Bakersfield, Santa Maria, San Luis Obispo, and Salinas. Jane Doe 2 finally managed to escape by contacting a human trafficking hotline.

On August 31, 2015, Jackson-Robinson pled guilty to pandering Jane Doe 2, in violation of Penal Code section 266(i), and was sentenced to three years in state prison.

From 2014-2015, the Santa Maria Police Department, in conjunction with the Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office, and the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department, worked tirelessly to identify, locate, and apprehend Defendant Alexander. Defendant Alexander was ultimately arrested in Las Vegas, Nevada on October 7, 2015, and was extradited to California.

The honorable Judge McGregor sentenced Defendant Alexander today to 19 years and 8 months in state prison. Defendant Alexander was also ordered to register as a sex offender for life per Penal Code section 290. If the defendant commits any additional strikes in the future, he will be facing a 25-life prison sentence.

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In response to this sentence, Prosecuting Attorney, DDA Jennifer Karapetian stated that, "Jane Doe 1 and Jane Doe 2 will forever be impacted by the heinous actions of Defendant Alexander. With this plea and sentence, they have a sense of closure. Jane Doe 1 and Jane Doe 2 can now focus on their healing, so that they can move from victim to survivor."

District Attorney Dudley added, "Our community continues to be shocked that Human Trafficking occurs in Santa Barbara County. This case is yet another tragic illustration of the fact that human trafficking does occur here, and that it will be rigorously investigated and vigorously prosecuted."

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